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—BY—

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"SELF OR BEARER."

By WALTER BESANT

Author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," "The Captain's Room," etc

"I will do my best sir," said Dick.

"Now there's something else only this forgery interfered t is this Clonsilla succession It was I, you know, who gave the doctor his title"

"You!"

No other He knew of course, that he was a distant cousin but he never dreamed of the title falling to him until three years ago Dick—three years ago when I talked the thing over with him, and showed him that two lives stood between him and the title he sold his reversionary rights to me—for a song And now the reversion is mine"

"I thought there was no money in it"

"There s a small Irish estate which at present is worth nothing because the tenants won't pay We shall see about that But there s a snug little English property Dick about which the doctor knows nothing It isn't a great thing but there is a house upon it with a few acres of land and it stands in a good position I think it is let for three hundred a year and perhaps we shall be able to run up the value a bit Three hundred pounds a year my boy with a good tenant and I bought it for two hundred pounds down I'm a landed proprietor Dick and you are my heir You shall be a landed proprietor too by gad, when your turn comes!"

He rubbed his hands cheerfully His son's face which ought to have responded with some kind of smile, only darkened more and more That was perhaps, his way of expressing joy

The thought of that snug little English estate made Mr Murridge so cheerful that he forgot his wrath concerning the forgery

"It will be a cheering thing he said returning to the subject when the case is completed for you to think of the man you have convicted to the lowest major and after words to the central criminal court For sixty pounds—the paltry sum of sixty pound—he will have purchased the exclusive use of a whitewashed apartment rent free for seven or perhaps ten years There will be other advantages—the privilege of a whole year spent alone—with an hour s exercise every day then a good many years of healthy employment, without any fear of want or trouble and no amusements and no alcohol! And when at last he comes out it will be to a world which will turn its back upon him for the rest of his natural life The hand of Justice is heavy in this country on the man who invades the rights of property but the hand of Society is ten times as hard—ten times as hard So it ought to be—so it ought to be For if property is not held sacred who would try to make money?"

Dick went back to his own desk, taking with him the checks and the check book He sat down and began to think He had a weal in which he would be left quite undisturbed to find out the forger A good deal may be done in a week If he failed his father would take up the case for himself—his father, who is not was as keen as a bloodhound and whose pursuit would be relentless He had a weak! For the moment he could not think what was to be done He had tried, perhaps, or, perhaps he was not satisfied as to the best way of following up a clew Perhaps the problem presented itself to him as it would to an outsider Given a robbery and a forgery The thing must have been committed when Mr Murridge was out—that was certain the forger must have been connected by some one well acquainted with the custom of drawing twelve pound checks as well as able to imitate a signature The only persons who had access to the inner office in Mr Murridge's absence was himself Norah Cronan the office boy and the housekeeper, but the latter only when the office was cleaned and only ... Suspicion, he thought, fell upon any of the ... tour, but naturally upon himself and upon Norah He put this quite lately to himself As for the ... he would not suspect him he was too great a fool even to think of such a crime and the housekeeper too was out of the question There remained as the most likely persons to be suspected, himself and Norah

Having got so far he remained here, unable to get any further In fact, he came back to it again and again

"Myself and Norah," he thought "It must lie between us two—it must lie between us!"

The office boy watched him curiously From his position at the other side of the fireplace he looked, so to speak over Dick's shoulder, and could watch him unseen and unsuspected There were certain special reasons—in fact they were concealed in the pocket of his jacket—why the office boy thought that something was going to happen There were other reasons, such as a great increase in Mr Richard s sulkiness, a jumpy manner which had lately come over him and his rudeness to Miss Cronan which made this intelligent boy believe that something was going to happen very soon Then Mr Murridge had been shut up with his son for three quarters of an hour That meant things unusual And now Mr Richard, instead of drawing girls' heads, was sitting in moody thought.

You know how strangely when the mind is greatly exercised and strained one remembers some little trifle, or forgets some little habitual thing such as brushing the hair or putting on a collar Dick's eyes fell upon his pocketbook, which lay upon his desk It was a diary—one of the diaries which give a certain small space for every day in the year and a pocket for letters It belonged like his purse and his bunch of keys essentially to his pocket Yet he could not remember when he had last carried it in his pocket Consider, if you are accustomed to a bunch of keys in your pocket you do not feel their presence but yet you miss them when they are no longer there Dick became suddenly conscious that for some time—perhaps an hour, perhaps a whole day perhaps more—he had not felt *the presence of the pocketbook* But his mind had been so much occupied by certain pressing anxieties which beset him about this time that he had no idea of the absence of the book ha f consciously Now that he saw it lying on his table he snatched it up and began turning over the pages at first confidently and then hurriedly, as one looks for something lost There was something lost. He shook out the leaves he looked through *them again he searched the empty pocket* Then he searched his own pockets

The boy behind him watched with a broad grin of satisfaction as if he understood the cause of this distress

Then Dick sprang from his chair and looked under the table, on the floor, in the blotting pad, in the letter rack and in the drawers Then he began all over again No Greek mime ever expressed more vividly *the anxiety, dismay and terror of one who* has lost a thing of vital importance The boy felt as if he should like to roll on the floor and scream

"Have you picked up anything, you boy?"

Dick turned upon him fiercely, so that he was fain to repress the smile upon his lips and the light of joy in his eye "Come here, you little devil!"

The boy obeyed with composed face, and, in fact, with considerable trepidation, because there was something in his jacket pocket which he ardently desired to conceal from Mr Richard.

"Have you picked up anything at all?" he asked again

"What is it?" the boy asked, by way of reply. "Is it money dropped?"

"You measly little devil! Why don't you answer? Have you picked up anything? It is something of no importance to anybody—a bit of pink paper"

"I haven t picked up nothing," replied the boy, sullenly

"I've a great mind to search you" said Dick catching him by the coat collar "You're as full of tricks as you can stick."

"Search me, then Oh, yes! Search me I ll go and call the guv nor and ask him to search me if you like You just lemme go or I'll scream, and bring out the guv nor, and ask him to search me"

Dick dropped his coat collar instantly

"Look here," he said "Do you know this pocketbook?"

"Never saw it before in my life"

This, I regret to say, was a falsehood The boy had seen it many times before Every day Mr Richard drew that book from his pocket and wrote in it, and then put it back

"You came here before me this morning Was it on my desk when you came?"

"Don't know Never saw it there. Never saw it before in my life"

Dick began to think that he was wrong The book must have been in his pocket he must have taken it out without thinking But where was the——

"You boy," he said "if you are lying, I ll break every bone in your body"

Modern boy is so constituted that this threat does not terrify him in the least Nobody s bones are broken nowadays It is true that every father has the right to whack and wollop his own son, and sometimes does it, but with discretion, otherwise the school board officer will find him out.

"I don t care Call the guv nor and tell him what you want I dun know what you ve lost What is it, then?"

"I ve lost a—a paper It was in this book"

"What sort of a paper?"

Dick made no reply Perhaps the lost paper would be in his own room. Stung by the thought that it might be lying about somewhere he put on his hat and turned hurriedly away

"What sort of a paper was it?" asked the boy "If you give over threatening I ll help look for it. What sort of a paper?"

"Hold your tongue You can't help I ve looked everywhere.

"Perhaps" said the boy persuasively—"perhaps it was the housekeeper"

Very few people think of the housekeeper Yet there is always one in every house let out for offices She is always elderly—nobody ever heard of a housekeeper in the city dying—and she is generally a grandmother with a daughter, also a widow and three or four little children—they are always little Grandmothers and *children always, in the* city remain at the same age All the week long the children are hidden away somewhere in the basement on Saturday afternoons and Sundays they come up and have a high old time, because the front door is closed and the place is deserted and the whole house is their own Then the office doors are thrown open and the children run races in the most sacred apartments and open all *the drawers and ransack their contents* and make themselves acquainted with the clerks secrets and the chief's hidden decanter of sherry, and read all the private journals and pick up the odd lead pencils and provide themselves with steel pens penholders blotting pads note paper, letter paper foolscap, india rubber envelopes and ill regulated offices, with postage stamps as well

Dick rang the bell for the housekeeper *She declared* with h was quite true that she had found nothing and carried away no paper She had children in the house, but unlike children in ... offices she could name her children were never allowed in her offices ... Saturday and Sunday

So she withdrew again and the lost paper was never recovered

Perhaps Dick had left it in his own room at home Forced by the thought as with an arrow he seized his hat and left the office

Then the office boy sat down in Mr Richard s chair and put his hands into his trousers pockets and spread his legs out and grinned from ear to ear

"It's coming fast he said "Lor! I wish he had searched me What would the guv nor have said when this little envelope was found in one pocket, and this envelope was found in the other pocket of pocket! And what would Mr Richard have said! I'm a measly little devil am I! And Miss Cronan she s a Sapphira which rhymes with liar, and goes with Ananias I ve often heard a boy called Ananias, but never a girl called Sapphira Sophy I know, but not Sapphira"

He could not resist the temptation of drawing out the two envelopes and looking at the contents

"Shall I" he said "knock at the guv nor s door and give him these two envelopes at once or shall I wait? I think I'll wait Ha! The time will come Then I shall jump upon him Then I shall make him wriggle Then I shall see him curl!"

This boy had not read the "History of Spring heel Jack" in vain

But neither at home nor anywhere could Dick Murridge find that lost piece of paper, and the loss of it filled him with anxiety

CHAPTER V

A STEADY YOUNG MAN'S EVENING

That secluded corner of London which lies hidden behind the three great stations and is separated from the rest of the world by the Hampstead road on the west and the *St Pancras road on the east, contains many* houses and harbors many families whose histories were they known are as strange and wonderful and as deeply laden with pathos and interest, as any mortal gentle or shield of sixteen quarterings

One of these houses for reasons which will be immediately obvious it is not necessary or advisable to name the road in it stands—is devoted, so to speak, to the *nightly conjuring of the emotions among* those who are privileged to enter its walls No melodrama ever placed upon the boards of a theatre arouses more fiercely and more certainly the passions of fierce anxiety, rage despair and frantic joy than the simple passes of the great magician who practises nightly in this house It is nothing more than a tavern—a simple corner house with a sign board and a bar of many curtains

The spells, *magic and mystery are worked* on the first floor, which is let off for a club which meets here every evening all the year round except on Sundays The members *would meet on Sundays as well if it were* permitted

At seven o'clock the club opens every evening It is not a political club for politics are never touched upon, nor is it a social club for the members do not converse *together after the manner of ordinary mortals*, nor is it a club founded for the advance of any cause, or for the promotion of any art or for any scientific or intellectual objects whatever Yet it is a club where conversation is always animated, and even interjectional, though sometimes monotonous It is also absorbing, and it brings all heads bent together it makes all eyes strained everybody s face is anxious and eager, and it is so witty so clever so biting and epigrammatic, that at everything that is said some laugh and shout, and some sigh weep and even curse It is lastly, a club which contains everything which the members want to make them completely happy though, unfortunately, the members cannot always get what they want and what they come for

There were eight or nine small tables about the room, each provided with a pair of candles, and each occupied by two men There was a sideboard or buffet, with decanters and glasses, cigars, cigarettes and the usual trimmings, behind which stood a young lady of bar maidenly loveliness For the look of the thing there were champagne bottles but the customary drink was whisky or bottled stout. A dozen men were standing about the bar, drinking or talking to the girl They were those who had come too late for a place, and were waiting their turn The atmosphere was thick and heavy with tobacco smoke There was also an open piano, but no one regarded it

Among the tables and those who sat out there moved continually a man rather small of stature, but of good proportions, of straight and regular features, and very carefully dressed He was now advanced in life being perhaps sixty years of age His hair was white, and he wore a heavy white mustache A cigarette was always between his lips, his voice was soft, gentle and he seemed to have something friendly to say to every one of the members, his smile was *kindly, his eyes benevolent*, he laughed easily and musically, and there was not a man in the room who did not believe that the count was his own private, personal and particular friend They called him, to show their great respect, the count. He did not himself claim the title, though perhaps he was a count in his own country, or even a prince, for he was by birth an Italian, and his card bore the simple name of Signor Giuseppe Piranesi He had lost the forefinger of his right hand—in a duel, it was understood, about a lady, no doubt a princess Everybody believed the count had been, in his day a terrible breaker of ladies hearts.

In plain words the place is a gambling club, run by this Italian who was so good a friend to all the members

Among the players at the middle table sat Dick Murridge

His father was right in mistrusting a boy who went about his work like a machine, and seemed to have no passion, no pursuit no ambition—who committed no small follies and had none of the headlong faults of ardent youth Dick had a pursuit. It was absorbing and entrancing he followed it with ardor every evening of the week. It was a pursuit which brought into play, to a very remarkable degree the maxims which his father had taught him It requires for instance, no law of honor except that if you conceal cards, or play false or do not pay up, you are out-kicked It makes no foolish pretense about friendship philanthropy charity, or any stuff of that kind. At the baccarat table every man is for himself No skill is wanted, no dull working and daily practice in order to acquire dexterity, which would not be of any use, the whole object of the pursuit is to win money

Of all the eager and noisy crowd who sat at that table there was not one who was more *absorbed in the game than Dick Murridge* The others shouted and swore great oaths when they won or lost. Dick made no sign. His face betrayed no emotion. The quiet gambler is the most determined and the most hopeless

By the side of Dick sat—alas!—young Daffodil Cronan He was by no means a silent player His face was flushed with excitement, his hair tossed his lips were parted and at every turn of the cards he gasped, whether it brought him victory or loss, only, if he won, he laughed aloud.

By the side of Dick sat young Daffodil

This evening it might have been remarked that the count was a good deal engaged in watching Dick's play He observed two or three things When Dick won he put his winnings into his pocket without a word or a sign of satisfaction When he lost he saw the stake raked up without the least emotion Further, he observed that Dick lost nearly every time the luck was dead *against him from the beginning* And this circumstance afforded him a certain satisfaction, but why, one could hardly explain

At ten o clock Dick rose from the table and laid his hand upon his friend's shoulder

"Come," he whispered, they will be expecting you at home

The boy rose unwillingly He was winning, and for the first time in his life his pocket was heavy with silver But Dick *dragged him from the table*

"My young friends" said the count, as they left the table "you leave us too early But perhaps it is best to be home in good time I hope you have not lost"

He spoke very good English but with a slightly foreign accent, and he spoke as if he really did take the deepest interest in their fortune

"As for me" cried Daffodil eagerly, "I've won a pot. Look here! He pulled out a handful of shillings "It s glorious!

The count laughed encouragingly

"Good" he said, "very good! Luck is always with the boys. At your age I should have broken all the banks Come again soon I love to see the boys win And you, friend Richard?"

"It doesn t matter to any one except myself" Dick replied, gloomily, "whether I win or lose

"He is silent," said the count "I watch him at his play When the others laugh or when they curse he is silent. No one can tell from his face whether he has won or lost. A good player should be silent. Will you drink before you go?

Daffodil went to the bar and had a drink Dick refused

"Do you want another advance, my friend?" asked the count

Dick shook his head, but with uncertainty

"What is the good?" he asked "My infernal luck follows me every night I'm cleaned out again"

"Dear me! I am very sorry Let me see your account You have given me three checks each for twelve pounds They were ... —he glanced quickly at Dick's face "without question"

"Why the devil should they be questioned?" Dick asked

"Ah my friend yours is the face for the gambler You can keep your countenance whatever happens It is a great gift Steady eyes—look me in the face—full steady eyes, and fingers"—he took Dick's hand in his and squeezed the fingers critically— fingers that are sensitive and quick Sometimes I think *that fingers are alive* Why if a devil was to enter into one of these fingers, and persuade it to—well, to imitate another person's handwriting——"

"What do you mean?" asked Dick

"Steady eyes—steady eyes! Why, that the finger would imitate that writing to perfection Well, as to our account You owe me, my young friend, twenty four pounds Shall I make you another advance? Well come here to morrow *morning at eleven* Can you spare the time? Come! We shall be quite alone and I shall have something to say Steady eyes, delicate fingers hard and cold face These are the gifts of the true gambler"

"What then?" said Dick.

What, indeed! I fear they are gifts which may be wasted Some day, when you are in trouble—some day, when you want money——"

"I always want money"

"You are in trouble also my friend I read trouble in your face" He dropped his voice to a whisper—a soft, friendly, murmurous whisper "You are in trouble now Confide in me. Those three checks, now——"

"No no! The checks are all right. I tell you Why do you keep harping upon the checks?"

"I rejoice to hear it, I was afraid you might have been deceived But you are in trouble"

"I didn t say that, I said I wanted money If you can teach me how to make it— But you can't, else you would make it for yourself Why should you teach me?"

The count looked at his mutilated hand.

"I could make it for myself once, but I am—I am old *perhaps I know how it is to be* made, easily by handfuls, and I can teach you how to do it, too"

"Nobody ever gives anything What am I to pay for the knowledge?"

"Come to morrow and I will tell you what you are to pay Come here at eleven o'clock when we shall be quite alone, and— Ah here is my new friend My dear boy, I rejoice when my young friends win. It is our *turn to lose. We are the old boys* The world of pleasure is all for the young Come here and win more—win all we have! Then go and spend your money gayly There are plenty of pretty girls who love boys with money Go—sing—love—dance—drink! Then come here again and make more money Happy boy—happy youth!"

"Come along, Dick," said Daffodil, laughing "I have won fifty shillings, at least. Hurray! What a splendid game it is!"

Continued next week.

Failure of the Great Tunnel.

The failure of the Big Bend tunnel to carry the water of Feather river has been regretfully noticed by many papers. It was a misfortune, but will result only in a short delay in mining the river. They will probably mine several hundred feet this summer, by means of fluming what water the tunnel will not take, and this winter turn the water back into the river and enlarge the tunnel. Fortunately, the company has an abundance of coin, and will make the necessary enlargement.—*Oroville Mercury*.

ORCHARD AND VINEYARD.

Communications on subjects of interest to fruit growers and vineyardists solicited for this department

VITICULTURAL NOTES.

Among notes recently prepared by Mr Wetmore, Chief Executive State Viticultural Officer of California, are the following concerning raisins, and experiments in the use of electricity in wine-making.

The use of the sacchrometer in determining the necessary sweetness to produce a good raisin, must necessarily come into vogue if we are to accomplish uniform and valuable results How much sugar there should be in the juice of a Muscat grape at the time it is picked, in order to make a good raisin, has not yet been satisfactorily determined, but this much ought to be apparent after a little reflection In drying the raisins the juice becomes condensed, the watery part evaporates and a syrup of natural grape sugar remains. The less sugar there is in the juice the drier the raisin will appear to be when it is thoroughly cured, owing to the absence of such sugar, and the more likely it is to spoil when it encounters moist atmosphere, as it is known that condensed grape juice containing a very large percentage, say 70 or 80 per cent, of sugar will not ferment All good raisins may therefore properly be called sugar cured, although they depend solely upon the natural sugar of their own juice That peculiar juiciness that is looked for in a good raisin cannot be obtained from grapes which are deficient in sugar, because in order to dry them sufficiently to make them keep well there is not sufficient left of liquid matter to make them palatable. Frequent illustrations have occurred to show the importance of allowing the Muscat grape to become *sufficiently ripe before it is picked for* drying In many cases producers have observed that where they have picked their grapes two weeks earlier than their neighbors, their raisins have been thoroughly cured the soonest It may therefore be laid down as a principle that only a thoroughly ripe grape with a sufficiency of sugar can be used to make a good raisin, and also, inferentially, that only those raisins produced from such grapes will keep well when subjected to climatic changes The use of an artificial dryer to cure raisins which are deficient in sugar will never overcome all the difficulties which have been experienced by raisin curers, although they may convert grapes, otherwise unsuited to raisin-making, into a merchantable product to be sold promptly, and with care not to subject them to moist climates Such raisins, however, are fit only for cooking purposes and not for dessert

Arrangements have just been made with Dr. Fraser to conduct under the auspices of the Commission, in this city series of experiments with a view to determining possible results from the application of electricity and magnetism in wine making and maturing operations Among the several problems that have been put down for possible solution is the effect of the magnetic current on fermentation As soon as definite results are obtainable reports will be given to the public.

THE FRONT YARD

Every farmer, and, in fact, every person owning a yard, ought to take pride in keeping it neat and clean Neat well kept yards attract the passerby, and often add money value to the place We have an instance of this kind in mind now A man came into a certain neighborhood recently, to buy a farm He found two that were for sale. One was *good as the other, as regards location*, soil, buildings, etc, but one had a neat yard about the house and the other had a slovenly one, and though he could have bought the slovenly yard for less money than he had to give for the other, he chose the one that cost most, simply be*cause it looked best*

Have a well-made fence about the yard, and keep it in repair. Have a strong gate and never let it get off its hinges Keep the shrubs and trees trimmed up well, and never let litter of any sort accumulate Have a big box, or hogshead, in the back yard, into which cans, old boots, shoes, and the thousand and one things which accumulate about the house can be thrown from time to time When the box, or hogshead is full, burn or bury the rubbish This refers not to the front yard only, let neatness prevail all about the place It gives an air of thrift and prosperity, and always impresses a beholder favorably It pays in more ways than one to have neat surroundings —*Ex*

THE EXCELLENCE OF FARM LIFE.

It is a common complaint that the farm and farm life are not appreciated by our people We long for the more elegant pursuits, or the ways and fashions of the town. But the farmer has the most sane and natural occupation, and ought to find life sweeter, if less highly seasoned, than any other. He alone, strictly speaking, has a home How can a man take root and live without land? He writes his history upon his field How many ties and resources he has, his friendships with his cattle, his team, his dog, his trees, the satisfaction in his growing crops, in his improved fields, his intimacy with nature, with bird and beast, and with the quickening elemental forces Cling to the farm, make much of it, bestow your heart, your brain upon it, so that it shall savor of you and radiate your virtues after your day's work is done —*The Century Magazine*

AVOID BLACK LOCUST TREES

The editor of the *Santa Ana Standard* advises his readers to beware of the black locust tree in the following strong terms "Go to work now or next month at the farthest and cut down, dig out and obliterate from the face of the earth every black locust tree or sprout that you have growing on your premises, or some day they will prove a curse to you *worse than the scale bug*. The black locust is noted for being the favorite of the terrible apple tree borer of the Western States. There they first gain a foothold, propagate rapidly and go into orchards and do their deadly work We have seen the ravages of the borers in the States and know that the locust tree planted near an orchard means death to *the fruit trees*. The borer has not got here yet, and we trust it never may, but when it does it will find its first lodgment in the black locust."

John C Gray, near Wyandotte, has 20 acres of young olive trees that are doing finely The land is free from grass and weeds and the ground has been irrigated enough to give the trees a good start. This winter 30 acres more will be planted to olives, while other land will be set out to oranges. Do you know, you that own lands here in the foothills, that Cooper, of Santa Barbara, is clearing $1 000 an acre from his olive orchards? Think of that a moment and see what a few acres of your land would bring you if put out to olives. Last year from 6,000 olive trees Cooper realized $50,000. Follow the example of John C. Gray and plant olives if you want a fortune for yourself and your children and their descendants to the fifth generation.—*Oroville Register*.

Last spring C. T. Canfield thought he would see what he could do in the way of beating the record in tomato culture. He planted four stalks in a suitable place and watered and tended them with care. When they grew so tall as to need support he built a frame for them, and kept adding to its height as the increase of growth required. They have grown all summer, ... feet. The vines are ...

high and make a cluster ... feet in circumference. They ... with a crop of the best ... have ever seen anywhere, and ... thing taken together is a wonder ... vegetable world.—*Nevada City* ...

SCALE BUG REMEDY.

More Information from the State ... Fruit Pests.

SANTA BARBARA, Sept. 16, ...

EDITORS REPUBLICAN:—In your ... of August 5th appeared an item ... report from Dr. Freeman on the ... the Fresno Horticultural Board. ... the work started by this com... will be aided and supported by ... ple, for otherwise they cannot ... There is, however, a point in Dr. F... port which I think should be c... I refer to his formula. As it ... might be dangerous to the foliage ... fruit The receipt given is this ... pound of whale oil soap to two ... of water, with as much sulphur ... be dissolved while boiling. To ... says, may be added one pound of ... can lye or potash to each eight ... gallons of the mixture. As ... speaks in the report before of the ... of using lye we take it that the ... has been misconstructed somehow ... a proportion of alkali as one po... eight gallons is a great deal mo... we have ever found safe to ... Bulletin No 3 of the State Board ... ticulture, in the wash given by ... amount of lye used makes a c... combination with sulphur, and th... mum amount we found safe to u... determined by actual experiment ... solution was tried on a large numb... trees of different varieties, incl... olives and oranges. It was found ... orange would stand a stronger so... *than pears, apples less than pears*, ... the weakest strength seemed to ... plish the object, we decided upon r... mending it as a summer wash, chea... effective. The boiling of the su... with lye was on Prof. Hilgard's su... tion, and the proportion was regu... so as to have all the alkali combine... the sulphur, thus forming sulphide ... soda. The aim in preparing it thus ... two fold First, to get a solution ... could pass through a fine nozzle, ... sulphur mechanically mixed with ... will not conveniently do. Second, ... sulphide of soda seems to have ... more powerful effect on insect and ... life than mere sulphur suspended ... soap Good soap will not dissolve ... appreciable amount of sulphur, ... the necessity of adding the alkali ... the importance of preparing the sulp... by boiling the lye and sulphur tog... apart from the soap. I enclose bul... No. 3 containing the formula of ... summer wash. The bulletin was or... sent to you as well as to other lea... papers in the state, and was no d... published by you some time ago, b... this connection I would ask you to ... the portion describing the wash a... Finally, I will say that I regret not ... ing made this communication be... but my continual traveling has preve... from doing so. I am yours most res... fully, W. G. KLEE, Inspector of Fruit Pe...

THE SCALE BUG WASH.

The wash we recommend is very ... ple, and comparatively easily prep... Dissolve 30 pounds whale oil soap ... per cent. soap, at the most costi... cents per pound) in 60 gallons of w... by heating the two together thorou... Boil 3 pounds of lye (American co... trated lye is what we have used) wi... pounds of sulphur and a couple of ... lons of water When thoroughly ... solved it is a dark-brown liquid (ch... cally sulphide of soda). Mix the ... the soap and the sulphide of soda, ... and allow them to boil for about ha... hour, then add about 90 gallons of w... to the mixture and it is ready for ... Apply it warm, at about 130° Fahre... by means of a spray pump Used w... its effect is better, and less material ... quired than when cold.

A Runaway Well.

A most peculiar experience with ... artesian well is the following, which ... telegraphed from Cedar Rapids, Io... William Weir & Sons began boring ... artesian well at the intersection of B... and Washington streets, Belle Plaine ... a flat about four blocks south of ... Burley house The contract called f... well with a three-inch casing and ... guaranteed They bored a two-inch ... and theorized that the flow of ... through it would wash it out so ... they could sink a three-inch casing. ... Thursday they struck water at a d... of 185 feet. At this time they ... about 60 feet of three inch casing d... and the water rose with strong force ... feet above the surface in a solid th... inch stream, plainly showing the stro... est flow yet struck. On Friday morn... the flow was under control, but du... the forenoon, in an attempt to force ... three-inch tube into the two inch h... it broke loose and wore away suffic... space outside the tubing to allow w... to boil out and around it at the sur... At sundown on Friday a stream of w... a foot in diameter was pouring out. ... 8 30 p. m the city authorities were ... pealed to to take control and give r... from the impending danger. Alr... *many lots and houses were more or* ... flooded.

At 9 p m. a gang of ... was at work, the mayor and city council ... *personally superintending the job* ... nearly morning. All expedients w... tried, but the water could not be ... trolled On Saturday morning Eng... Palmer proposed that a 15 inch tu... *be driven to the blue clay*, believed ... be about 50 feet down, and by thus c... fining the flow to a common center ... outside flow could be stopped, and t... once in the tubing, controlled, but ... scheme failed. It is impossible to e... mate the damages. The south pa... the town is flooded and cellars are f... with water. The flow continues, ... bated, making two rivers through ... lower part of the city. In his help... ness, the mayor applied to the hyd... engineering science of Chicago for ai...

Senator Stanford's Parrot.

Senator Stanford has a parrot ... remarkable one, too. It cost him ... *hundred dollars* and is a wonderfu... ucated bird. It speaks four ... English, French, German and ... The strange part of it is that the ... as soon as he hears any one speak, ... in what language to address the ... For a long while no one knew ... parrot spoke Italian until one ... Italian artist came to the house ... some work and the parrot heard ... talk. At once the bird started off ... ber Italian, and had quite a ... with the man. It always talks ... to a German servant and French ... maid. The parrot, when ... down in the morning, ... morning; I hope you ... is very peculiar, and ... stranger went up to ... "Pretty Polly! ... he quite astonished ... ing: "O, stop that ...

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